

# **Administration for Children and Families**

Office of Refugee Resettlement

Services for Survivors of Torture Program: Assistance to Torture Survivors Through Direct Services HHS-2012-ACF-ORR-ZT-0309
Application Due Date: 08/06/2012

# Services for Survivors of Torture Program: Assistance to Torture Survivors Through Direct Services HHS-2012-ACF-ORR-ZT-0309 TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### Overview

**Executive Summary** 

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

Section II. Award Information

# Section III. Eligibility Information

- 1. Eligible Applicants
- 2. Cost Sharing or Matching
- 3. Other (if applicable)

# Section IV. Application and Submission Information

- 1. Address to Request Application Package
- 2. Content and Form of Application Submission
- 3. Submission Dates and Times
- 4. Intergovernmental Review
- 5. Funding Restrictions
- 6. Other Submission Requirements

# Section V. Application Review Information

- 1. Criteria
- 2. Review and Selection Process
- 3. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

# Section VI. Award Administration Information

- 1. Award Notices
- 2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements
- 3. Reporting

Section VII. Agency Contact(s)

Section VIII. Other Information

# Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families

**Program Office:** Office of Refugee Resettlement

**Funding Opportunity Title:** Services for Survivors of Torture Program: Assistance to Torture

Survivors Through Direct Services

**Announcement Type:** Initial

**Funding Opportunity Number:** HHS-2012-ACF-ORR-ZT-0309

CFDA Number: 93.604
Due Date for Applications: 08/06/2012

Notice: On January 1, 2012, the Administration for Children and Families implemented required electronic application submission via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> for discretionary grant applications. (76 Fed. Reg. 66721-66723, October 27, 2011, <a href="New Policies and Procedural Requirements for the Electronic Submission of Discretionary Grant Applications">Memory Grant Applications</a>). Please see <a href="Section III.3">Section IV.2</a>. Content and Form of Application Submission and Application Submission Options, and Section IV.3. Explanation of Due Dates and Times for information on electronic application submission and the availability of exemptions allowing applicants to submit applications in paper format.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) is interested in awarding up to 30 grants for direct services to persons who have been tortured. The purpose of this program is to provide services to torture survivors to enable them to regain their health and independence and rebuild productive lives. It is also to conduct training to improve services and care for torture survivors.

Allowable activities include physical, psychological, social and legal services. Programs may provide all of these services, or a combination of these services. Partnerships may be formed with other community service providers in order to provide torture survivors with access to the full complement of allowable services. Training activities may also be conducted for community service providers who have access to or work with torture survivors.

# I. Funding Opportunity Description

#### **Statutory Authority**

Section 5(a) of the "Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998," Pub. L. 105-320 (22 U.S.C. § 2152 note) provides:

Assistance for Treatment of Torture Victims - The Secretary of Health and Human Services may provide grants to programs in the United States to cover the cost of the following services:

- 1. Services for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, including treatment of the physical and psychological effects of torture.
- 2. Social and legal services for victims of torture.

3. Research and training for health care providers outside of treatment centers, or programs for the purpose of enabling such providers to provide the services described in paragraph (1).

# **Description**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Estimates of the number of torture survivors have been established primarily by extrapolating from the major populations at-risk refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons. In 2007, the United Nations estimated there to be more than 10,600,000 refugees and asylum seekers in the world and nearly 12,800,000 internally displaced persons. The estimates of refugees, asylum seekers, and displaced persons who have been tortured vary widely from 5 to 35 percent.

The psychosocial and health consequences of violence and traumatic stress have emerged as one of the major public health problems of our time. Torture constitutes one of the most extreme forms of trauma, with the potential for long-term psychological and physical suffering. The authorizing legislation uses the definition of torture given in 18 U.S.C. § 2340(1) and specifies that the definition includes the use of rape and other forms of sexual violence by a person acting under the color of law upon another person under his custody or physical control. Section 2340(1) states that torture is:

". . . an act committed by a person acting under the color of law specifically intended to inflict severe physical or mental pain or suffering (other than pain or suffering incidental to lawful sanctions) upon another person within his custody or physical control."

Some specific examples of physical and psychological types of torture committed by a person "acting under the color of law" are: systemic beating, sexual torture, electrical torture, suffocation, burning, bodily suspension, pharmacological torture, mutilations, dental assaults, deprivation and exhaustion, threats about the use of torture, witnessing the torture of others, humiliation, and isolation.

#### SERVICES FOR TORTURE SURVIVORS

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to provide services to torture survivors to enable them to regain their health and independence and rebuild productive lives. It is also to conduct training to improve services and care for torture survivors.

This FOA focuses on the physical, psychological, social, and legal services for torture survivors, as well as education and training of service providers. ORR recognizes that torture may have been an experience of many members of groups residing in the U.S., including refugees, asylees, asylum seekers, immigrants, other displaced persons, and U.S. citizens who were tortured abroad.

Individuals eligible for services under this program are those who have suffered torture in foreign countries and are now present in the U.S. Programs determining eligibility for services will use the definition cited in 18 U.S.C. § 2340(1), and will also adhere to any ORR published guidance.

Physical consequences of torture may be extensive and severe. Specific neuropsychological symptoms are often difficult to diagnose because of head injuries, the multiplicity of symptoms, and co-morbidity. Post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, substance abuse, and other anxiety disorders are common diagnoses among torture survivors. Therefore, for many severely tortured individuals, access to physical practitioners and sophisticated diagnostic instruments and testing (e.g., neuro-imaging, cognitive functions, etc.) for the purpose of differential diagnosis is paramount. The provision of psycho-therapeutic services is also of great importance in the treatment of many torture survivors.

In addition to physical and psychological services for persons who have been tortured, a high percentage of torture survivors are in need of legal and social services. Access to legal and immigration services is often a priority for the person. Social services such as housing, employment assistance, and vocational training may also be extremely important and correlate with successful psychosocial adjustment,

rehabilitation, and general well-being. Additional attention may be needed for members of the family who have second-hand experience with torture or are facing domestic violence as a sequelae of torture. Experience with refugees and survivors of wartime violence has demonstrated that early and adequate access to social and legal services may also preclude or reduce the need for more specialized psychological treatment services.

Active case management that provides support, information, referral, and coordination of services to clients is also central to their ongoing rehabilitation and ability of torture survivors to establish productive lives in their communities.

# **Client-Centered Service Delivery**

Not all torture survivors have the same physical, psychological, social, or legal needs, and services funded under this announcement will reflect a wide scope of venues for populations to be targeted and services to be provided. Because of the diverse individualized needs of torture survivors, programs should offer client-centered services whereby clients receive assistance specific to their needs. In accordance with the identified needs of torture survivors, physical, psychological, social, and legal services should be provided by the grantee or otherwise be coordinated through other organizations in the community where the grant is awarded.

In client-centered programs, clients are considered first and foremost in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of service delivery. In these programs, service providers recognize that clients are the key to understanding their own personal circumstances and do not assume they know what is best, most timely, or a priority for each client. Program staff gathers information with clients to design an appropriate complement of services, and client preferences should guide every aspect of service delivery. In turn, providers possess the specialized knowledge and skills to help clients make informed choices and to maintain high quality client care.

# **Cross-Organization Collaboration**

The torture rehabilitation and treatment center movement, which was established in Denmark in the 1970s and subsequently adopted in the U.S., Canada, France, and other countries, has led to the growth of specialized torture survivor treatment centers. Although the treatment center movement has created opportunities for treatment and training in specific urban areas, many torture survivors are not aware of the services or do not have access to these highly specialized programs.

Collaborative relationships are encouraged from programs that provide services in one geographic and/or service area but, may have creative ideas for expanding into under served geographic and/or service areas. Collaborative relationships should focus on enhancing client-centered delivery that involves client information, input, and goal development during the entire continuum of services. An organization that currently provides legal advice to detained asylum seekers who are torture survivors might team with another social service or clinical organization to pool resources and expand their range of services either locally or in another part of a State or region.

# Information Sharing, Awareness Raising and Training

In carrying out the Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 2005, it is important that local communities and providers that come into contact with torture survivors are well prepared and trained to assist them. Individuals who have experienced torture may access physical, social, and legal services before seeking psychological help. Therefore, ORR requires broad community efforts to enable these service providers to appropriately identify, refer, and serve those who are suffering the result of torture.

Survivors require a holistic treatment approach with physical, psychological, social, and legal services provided in a complementary manner. If community providers and organizations are to serve torture survivors effectively, they must understand their backgrounds, unique needs, and challenges, as well as effective methods of service provision for this population.

#### **EVALUATION**

ORR will be seeking approval of its 17 demographic and output data points through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

ORR will be working with successful grantees from this FOA to collect the following demographic and output data.

ORR currently collects via the HHS/ACF/ORR On Line Data Collection (OLDC) system 17 demographic and output data points that will be required reporting for all direct Services for Survivors of Torture program grantees. Grantees will need to collect these data points separately for new, continuing and returning clients. Grantees should provide data only for those clients who are served through ORR Services for Survivors of Torture program funding. Applicants should describe their plan to collect and report the following 17 data points: 1. Client's self-reported age when first subjected to torture; 2. Type of torture suffered; 3. Primary complaint/presenting problem; 4. Client's Sex; 5. Immigration status at intake; 6. Age at intake; 7. Employment status at intake; 8. Date of arrival in the U.S.; 9. Country of origin; 10. Ethnicity; 11. Religion; 12. Housing status at intake; 13. Total number of clients; 14. Number of clients by service category (medical, mental health, social, legal); 15. Number of community trainings held; 16. Number of people trained by profession; 17. Number of hours contributed by pro bono service.

In the narrative portion, all aggregate data/percentages provided must be supported by the raw data used to come to the conclusion that the grantee's program is either meeting its mandate or not. This will also be useful to the grantee and ORR in determining future amendments and positive trends in service delivery that should be documented in the work plan due with the semi-annual report.

# PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

ORR will conduct an entrance conference for those successful grantees who are awarded a grant under this FOA to answer all grantee questions and provide guidance regarding semi- annual reporting and annual work plans. Additionally, training regarding the OLDC system will also be provided. Successful grantees are required to attend a mandatory annual conference.

For more information on application components specific to this FOA, please reference Section IV.2. The Project Description.

#### II. Award Information

Funding Instrument Type: Grant

Estimated Total Funding: \$10,000,000

Expected Number of Awards: 30

Award Ceiling: \$600,000 Per Budget Period Award Floor: \$100,000 Per Budget Period Average Projected Award Amount: \$380,000 Per Budget Period

#### **Length of Project Periods:**

36-month project with three 12-month budget periods

#### **Additional Information on Awards:**

Awards made under this announcement are subject to the availability of Federal funds.

Applications requesting an award amount that exceeds the *Award Ceiling* per budget period or per project period, as stated in this section, will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement. This disqualification applies only to the *Award Ceiling* listed for the first 12-month budget period for projects with multiple budget periods. If the project and budget period are the same, the

disqualification applies to the *Award Ceiling* listed for the project period. Please see *Section III.3*. *Application Disqualification Factors*.

**Note:** For those programs that require matching or cost sharing, grantees will be held accountable for projected commitments of non-Federal resources in their application budgets and budget justifications, even if the projected commitment exceeds the required amount of match or cost share. A grantee's failure to provide the required matching amount will result in the disallowance of Federal funds.

It is expected that grant applicants will provide a budget that covers the first year of the 3-year grant cycle period. If successful, continuation awards will be offered every 12 months. ORR reserves the right to decrease, discontinue or otherwise alter the continuation grant amount.

Please see *Section IV.5 Funding Restrictions* for limitations on the use of Federal funds awarded under this announcement.

# III. Eligibility Information

# III.1. Eligible Applicants

Eligibility is open to all types of domestic applicants, except as noted. State governments; county governments; city or township governments; special district governments; independent school districts; public and state-controlled institutions of higher education; Native American tribal governments (federally-recognized); public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally-recognized tribal governments); nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status from the IRS, other than institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; for-profit organizations other than small businesses; small business; and public or private non-profits.

Individuals, foreign entities, and sole proprietorship organizations are not eligible to compete for, or receive, awards under this announcement. See *Section III.3. Other*.

Faith-based and community organizations that meet eligibility requirements are eligible to receive awards under this funding opportunity announcement.

See "Legal Status of Applicant Entity" in Section IV.2 for documentation required to support eligibility.

# III.2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement: No

#### III.3. Other

#### DUNS Number (Universal Identifier) and Central Contractor Registration (CCR) Requirements

# **DUNS Number Requirement**

Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number is the nine-digit, or thirteen-digit (DUNS + 4), number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities.

All applicants and subrecipients must have a DUNS number at the time of application in order to be considered for a grant or cooperative agreement. A DUNS number is required whether an applicant is submitting a paper application or using the Government-wide electronic portal, <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>. A DUNS number is required for every application for a new award or renewal/continuation of an award, including applications or plans under formula, entitlement, and block grant programs. A DUNS number may be acquired at no cost online at <a href="http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform">http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform</a>. To acquire a DUNS number by phone, contact the D&B Government Customer Response Center:

U.S. and U.S Virgin Islands: 1-866-705-5711

Alaska and Puerto Rico: 1-800-234-3867 (Select Option 2, then Option 1)

Monday - Friday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., CST

The process to request a D-U-N-S Number by telephone will take between 5 and 10 minutes.

#### Central Contractor Registration (CCR) Requirement

Central Contractor Registration (CCR) is the Federal registrant database and repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. CCR, managed by the General Services Administration, collects, validates, stores, and disseminates data in support of agency financial assistance missions.

Effective October 1, 2011, HHS required all entities that plan to apply for, and ultimately receive, Federal grant funds from any HHS Agency, or receive subawards directly from recipients of those grant funds to:

- Be registered in the CCR prior to submitting an application or plan;
- Maintain an active CCR registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by an OPDIV; and
- Provide its DUNS number in each application or plan it submits to the OPDIV.

ACF is prohibited from making an award until an applicant has complied with these requirements. At the time an award is ready to be made, if the intended recipient has not complied with these requirements, ACF:

- May determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award; and
- May use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Additionally, all first-tier subaward recipients (i.e., direct subrecipient) must have a DUNS number at the time the subaward is made

CCR registration may be made online at <a href="www.ccr.gov">www.ccr.gov</a> or by phone at 1-866-606-8220. CCR registration must be updated annually. CCR registration must be active and maintained with current information at all times during which an organization has an active award or an application under consideration.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to register at the CCR well in advance of the application due date.

# APPLICATION DISQUALIFICATION FACTORS

Applications from individuals, foreign entities, or sole proprietorship organizations will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

#### **Award Ceiling Disqualification**

Applications that request an award amount exceeding the *Award Ceiling* per budget period, or per project period, as stated in *Section II. Award Information*, will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement. This disqualification applies only to the *Award Ceiling* listed for the first 12-month budget period for projects with multiple budget periods. If the project and budget period are the same, the disqualification applies to the *Award Ceiling* listed for the project period.

# **Application Submission Disqualifications**

Beginning January 1, 2012, ACF requires electronic submission of applications at <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>. Applicants that do not have an Internet connection or sufficient computing capacity to upload large documents (files) to the Internet may contact ACF for an exemption that will allow these applicants to submit an application in paper format. Information on requesting an exemption from electronic application submission is found in Section IV.2. Application Submission Options.

The deadline for electronic application submission is 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date listed in the Overview and in Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times. Electronic applications submitted to <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> after 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date, as indicated by a dated and time-stamped email from <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>, will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement. That is, applications submitted to <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>, on or after 12:00 a.m., ET, on the day after the due date will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

**Please Note**: Applications submitted to <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> at any time during the open application period, and prior to the due date and time, which fail the Grants.gov validation check, will not be received at ACF. These applications will not be acknowledged. Applications that fail the Grants.gov validation check are not transmitted to ACF though they may have been submitted on time.

Each time an application is submitted via <u>www.Grants.gov</u>, the application will receive a new date and time-stamp email. Only those applications with on-time date and time stamps that result in a validated application, which are transmitted to ACF, will be acknowledged.

The deadline for receipt of paper applications is 4:30 p.m., ET, on the due date listed in the *Overview* and in *Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times*. Paper applications received after 4:30 p.m., ET, on the due date will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

Paper applications received from applicants that have not requested an exemption from required electronic submission will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement. See "Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission" in Section IV.2. Content and Form of Application Submission.

Applications that are disqualified under any of these circumstances will receive written notification by letter or by email.

Read and observe the formatting instructions for application submissions in *Section IV.2. Content and Form of Application Submission*.

# Section IV. Application and Submission Information

Jewel Roberts, MSW, Program Manager, Survivors of Torture Program

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#### **Electronic Application Submission:**

The electronic application submission package is available at www.Grants.gov.

#### **Applications in Paper Format:**

For applicants that have received an exemption to submit applications in paper format, Standard Forms, assurances, and certifications are available at the ACF Funding Opportunities Forms webpage at <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants-resources.html">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants-resources.html</a>. See Section IV.2.Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission if applicants do not have an Internet connection or sufficient computing capacity to upload large documents (files) to <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>.

Standard Forms that are compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. § 794d): Available at the <u>Grants.gov Forms Repository</u> website and at <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants</a> forms.

#### **Federal Relay Service:**

Hearing-impaired and speech-impaired callers may contact the Federal Relay Service for assistance at 1-800-877-8339 (**TTY** - Text Telephone or **ASCII** - American Standard Code For Information Interchange).

#### Section IV.2. Content and Form of Application Submission

#### FORMATTING ACF APPLICATIONS

# For All ACF Applications:

#### **Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR)**

The individual(s), named by the applicant/recipient organization, who is authorized to act for the applicant/recipient and to assume the obligations imposed by the Federal laws, regulations, requirements, and conditions that apply to grant applications or awards.

Each applicant must designate an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR). An AOR is named by the applicant, and is authorized to act for the applicant, to assume the obligations imposed by the Federal laws, regulations, requirements, and conditions that apply to the grant application or awards.

AOR Authorization is part of the registration process at <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> where the AOR will create a short profile and obtain a username and password from the Grants.gov Credential Provider. AORs will

only be authorized for the DUNS number registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR).

#### **Point of Contact**

In addition to the AOR, a point of contact on matters involving the application must also be identified. The point of contact, known as the Project Director or Principal Investigator, should not be identical to the person identified as the AOR. The point of contact must be available to answer any questions pertaining to the application.

# **Application Checklist**

Applicants may refer to *Section VIII*. *Other Information* for a checklist of application requirements that may be used in developing and organizing application materials. Details concerning acknowledgment of received applications are available in *Section IV.3*. *Submission Dates and Times* of this announcement.

Follow the instructions provided in the formatting section to ensure that your application can be printed efficiently and consistently for the competitive review.

# Observe page limitations.

All applicants must follow the instructions provided in this section. Be sure to print all attachments (components) on paper and count the number of pages before submission. Keep the printed copy as a hard copy of your application for your files.

#### **Application Package Components**

Applications must be divided into the sections listed in the table. (The order in which components are submitted electronically via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> or included in a paper application may not be the same as listed in the table.) Page limitations apply to the Project Description document and the Appendices and the following:

- The Project Summary/Abstract is limited to one single-spaced page.
- The Budget Justification should be no more than 10 single-spaced pages and will not count against page limitations.

Application Package Components	Page Limitations
Required Standard Forms (SFs) and/or OMB-approved Forms	No page limitations.
Required Certifications and Assurances	No page limitations.
Project Summary/Abstract	Limited to one single-spaced page.
Project Description	Page Limitations and included items are listed later in this section.
Budget Justification	No more than 10 single-spaced pages and will not count against page limitations.
Proof of Legal Status/Proof of Non-Profit Status	No page limitations.
Appendices	Page Limitations and included items are listed later in this section.

#### **ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED VIA www.Grants.gov:**

Notice: The Administration for Children and Families has implemented required electronic application submission via <u>www.Grants.gov</u>. Applicants are now required to submit their applications electronically unless they have requested and received an exemption that will allow submission in paper format. See Section IV.2. Application Submission Options.

Electronic applications will only be accepted via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>. ACF will not accept applications submitted via email or via facsimile. Only applications, which pass the Grants.gov validation check, will be acknowledged.

**Please read this section carefully before beginning application submission.** It is mandatory to follow the instructions provided in this section to ensure that your application can be printed efficiently and consistently for review.

# **Copies Required**

Applicants must submit one complete copy of the application package electronically. Applicants submitting electronic applications need not provide additional copies of their application package.

**NOTE:** Applications submitted via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> will undergo a validation check. See Section IV.2. Application Submission Options and Section IV.3. Submission Due Dates and Times, Explanation of Due Dates. The validation check can affect whether the application is accepted for review. Applications that fail the <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> validation check will not be transmitted to ACF. If the application fails the validation check and is not resubmitted by 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date, it will be disqualified.

#### Signatures

Follow the AOR Authorization and E-Biz POC instructions provided at www.Grants.gov.

#### **Required OMB-Approved and Standard Forms (SFs)**

<u>www.Grants.gov</u> provides its own protocols for the submission of OMB-approved and Standard Forms (SFs) such as the SF-424 application and budget forms and the SF-P/PSL, Project/Performance Site Location form. See *Section IV.2. Required Forms, Assurances, and Certifications* for required OMB-approved Standard Forms and required assurances and certifications.

#### **Application Package Components**

Applications must be divided into the sections listed in the table. It is important that each component is submitted in a separate electronic file. Page limitations apply to the Project Description document and the Appendices and the following:

- The Project Summary/Abstract is limited to one single-spaced page.
- The Budget Justification should be no more than 10 single-spaced pages.

Application Package Components	Page Limitations
Required Standard Forms (SFs) and/or OMB-approved Forms	No page limitations.
Required Certifications and Assurances	No page limitations.
Project Summary/Abstract	Limited to one single-spaced page.
Project Description	Page Limitations and included items are listed later in this section.

1 =	No more than 10 single-spaced pages and will not count against page limitations.
Proof of Legal Status/Proof of Non-Profit Status	No page limitations.
Appendices	Page Limitations and included items are listed later in this section.

The required content of the Project Description and any Appendices, and their page limits, are listed later in this section.

With the exception of the required Standard Forms (SFs), all application materials must be formatted so that they will print out onto 8 ½" x 11" white paper with 1-inch margins. All pages of the application component, i.e., Project Description, Budget Justification, Appendices, must be sequentially numbered. Applicants should print all attachments on paper and count the number of pages before submitting the application. Applicants should keep a hard copy of the submitted application package for their files. The font size on any scanned documents must be large enough so that it is readable.

All elements of the application submission, with the exception of the one-page Project Summary/Abstract, the Budget Justification, required Assurances and Certifications, and proof of legal status/non-profit status, must be in double-spaced format in 12-point font. The Project Summary/Abstract is required to be one single-spaced page in 12-point font. The Budget Justification may be single-spaced page in 12-point font and should be no more than 10 pages. The font size on any scanned documents must be large enough so that it is readable.

#### Applicants must follow the instructions provided in this section:

# Carefully observe the file naming conventions required by www.Grants.gov.

Limit file names to 50 characters and do not use special characters (example: &,-,\*,%,/,#) including periods (.), blank spaces, and accent marks, within application form fields, and file attachment names. An underscore ( ) may be used to separate a file name.

#### Use only file formats supported by ACF.

It is critical that applicants only submit application components using the supported file formats listed here. Documents in file formats that are not supported by ACF will be removed from the application and will not be used in the competitive review. This may make the application incomplete and ACF will not make any awards based on an incomplete application.

#### **ACF** supports the following file formats:

- Adobe PDF Portable Document Format (.pdf)
- Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx)
- Microsoft Excel (.xls or .xlsx)
- Microsoft PowerPoint (.ppt)
- Corel WordPerfect (.wpd)
- Image Formats (.JPG, .GIF, .TIFF, or .BMP only)

#### Do not encrypt or password protect the electronic application files!

If ACF cannot access submitted electronic files because they have been encrypted or are password protected, the affected file will be removed from the application and will not be used in the competitive review. This may make the application incomplete and ACF will not make any awards based on an incomplete application.

#### PAPER APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS:

The following requirements are only applicable to applications submitted in paper format. Applicants must receive an exemption from ACF in order to submit an application in paper format.

See Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission later in this section under Application Submission Options.

<b>Application Package Components</b>	Page Limitations
Required Standard Forms (SFs) and/or OMB-approved Forms	No page limitations.
Required Certifications and Assurances	No page limitations.
Project Summary/Abstract	Limited to one single-spaced page.
Project Description	Page Limitations and included items are listed later in this section.
Budget Justification	No more than 10 single-spaced pages and will not count against page limitations.
Proof of Legal Status/Proof of Non-Profit Status	No page limitations.
Appendices	Page Limitations and included items are listed later in this section.

# Copies Required

Applicants must provide one original and two copies of all application materials when submitting an application in paper format.

#### **Signatures**

An original signature of the AOR is required only on the original copy of paper application submissions. A point of contact on matters involving the application must also be identified on the SF-424 at item 8f. The point of contact, known as the Project Director or Principal Investigator, should not be identical to the person identified as the AOR.

#### **Format Requirements for Paper Applications**

Applicants must follow the instructions provided in this section.

All application materials must be submitted on 8 ½" x 11" white paper with 1-inch margins. **All pages of the paper application submission must be sequentially numbered.** Application materials must be printed on one side only of each page so that they may be easily reproduced. If two-sided pages are submitted, only the "front" page will be used.

All elements of the application submission, with the exception of the one-page Project Summary/Abstract, the Budget Justification, required Assurances and Certifications, and proof of legal status/non-profit status, must be in double-spaced format in 12-point font. The Project Summary/Abstract is required to be one single-spaced page in 12-point font. The Budget Justification may be single-spaced, in 12-point font, and should be no more than 10 pages. The font size on any scanned documents must be large enough so that it is readable.

All copies of a mailed or hand-delivered paper application must be submitted in a single package. A separate package must be submitted for application under a single funding opportunity. The package must

be clearly labeled for the specific funding opportunity it is addressing.

Because each application will be duplicated, do not use or include separate covers, binders, clips, tabs, plastic inserts, maps, brochures, or any other items that cannot be processed easily on a photocopy machine with an automatic feed. Do not bind, clip, staple, or fasten in any way separate subsections of the application, including supporting documentation. Use a clip (not a staple) to securely bind the application together. Applicants are advised that the copies of the application submitted, not the original, will be reproduced by the Federal government for review. Application materials must be one-sided for duplication purposes.

Instructions on the order of assembly for paper application submissions are available under this formatting section.

#### **Addresses for Submission of Paper Applications**

See Section IV.6. Other Submission Requirements for addresses for paper application submissions.

# **Page Limitations for Paper Format Application Submissions**

Page limitations do not include OMB-approved Standard Forms (SFs), the one-page Project Summary/Abstract, proof of legal status/non-profit status, required Assurances and Certifications, and the Budget Justification, which should be no more than 10 single-spaced pages.

If an application exceeds the cited page limitation for double-spaced pages in the Project Description or the double-spaced page limitation cited for the Appendices, the extra pages will be removed and will not be reviewed. In addition, if an application narrative is single-spaced and/or one-and-a-half spaced (in whole or in part) the total number of these lines will be doubled. This adjustment may result in an increased total number of pages, which will be removed so that the application conforms to the cited double-spaced page limitation.

The Project Summary/Abstract is limited to one single-spaced page with 12-point font. Any pages over the one-page limit will be removed.

# Page Limitations and Content of The Project Description and Appendices for All Application Formats:

The **Project Description** is limited to 40 pages and must include the following in this order:

- Table of Contents
- Objectives and Need for Assistance
- Outcomes Expected
- Approach
- Logic Model
- Project Sustainability Plan

The **Appendices** are limited to 15 pages and must include the following in this order:

- Organizational Capacity (i.e. organizational charts, contact persons and telephone numbers, names of bond carriers, child care licenses and other documentation of professional accreditation, information on compliance with Federal/State/local government standards, any other pertinent information the applicant deems relevant).
- Third-Party Agreements

# Required Forms, Assurances, and Certifications

Applicants seeking grant or cooperative agreement awards under this announcement must submit the listed Standard Forms (SFs), assurances, and certifications with the application. All required Standard Forms, assurances, and certifications are available at <a href="ACF Funding Opportunities Forms">ACF Funding Opportunities Forms</a> or at the <a href="Grants.gov Forms Repository">Grants.gov Forms Repository</a> unless specified otherwise.

Forms / Assurances / Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes / Description
Certification Regarding Lobbying	Submission required of all applicants with the application package. If it is not submitted with the application package, it may also be submitted prior to the award of a grant.	Submission of this Certification is required for all applications.
SF-424A - Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs and SF-424B - Assurances - Non-Construction Programs	Submission is required for all applicants when applying for a non-construction project. Standard Forms must be used. Forms must be submitted by the application due date.	Required for all applications when applying for a non-construction project. By signing and submitting the SF-424B, applicants are making the appropriate certification of their compliance with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination.
Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants	Submission is voluntary. Submission may be made with the application by the application due date listed in the <i>Overview</i> and <i>Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times</i> . Or, it may be submitted prior to the award of a grant.	Non-profit private organizations (not including private universities) are encouraged to submit the survey with their applications. Submission of the survey is voluntary. Applicants applying electronically may submit the survey along with the application as part of an appendix or as a separate document. Hard copy submissions should include the survey in a separate envelope.
SF-424 - Application for Federal Assistance and SF-P/PSL - Project/Performance Site Location(s)	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	Required for all applications.

# SF-LLL - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

If submission of this form is applicable, it is due prior at the time of application. It may also be submitted prior to the award of a grant.

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the applicant shall complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Applicants must furnish an executed copy of the Certification Regarding Lobbying prior to award.

#### Non-Federal Reviewers

Since ACF will be using non-Federal reviewers in the review process, applicants have the option of omitting from the application copies (not the original) specific salary rates or amounts for individuals specified in the application budget as well as Social Security Numbers, if otherwise required for individuals. The copies may include summary salary information. If applicants are submitting their application electronically, ACF will omit the same specific salary rate information from copies made for use during the review and selection process.

# The Project Description

# The Project Description Overview

The project description provides the majority of information by which an application is evaluated and ranked in competition with other applications for available assistance. The project description should be concise and complete. It should address the activity for which Federal funds are being requested. Supporting documents should be included where they can present information clearly and succinctly. In preparing the project description, information that is responsive to each of the requested evaluation criteria must be provided. Awarding offices use this and other information in making their funding recommendations. It is important, therefore, that this information be included in the application in a manner that is clear and complete.

#### **General Expectations and Instructions**

ACF is particularly interested in specific project descriptions that focus on outcomes and convey strategies for achieving intended performance. Project descriptions are evaluated on the basis of substance and measurable outcomes, not length. Extensive exhibits are not required. Cross-referencing should be used rather than repetition. Supporting information concerning activities that will not be directly funded by the grant or information that does not directly pertain to an integral part of the grant-funded activity should be placed in an appendix.

#### **General Instructions for Preparing a Full Project Description**

#### Introduction

Applicants that are required to submit a full project description shall prepare the project description statement in accordance with the following instructions while being aware of the specified evaluation criteria. The topics listed in this section provide a broad overview of what the project description should include while the Criteria in *Section V.1*. identify the measures that will be used to evaluate applications.

#### **Table of Contents**

List the contents of the application including corresponding page numbers.

#### **Project Summary/Abstract**

Provide a summary of the application's project description. The summary must be clear, accurate, concise, and without reference to other parts of the application. The abstract must include a brief description of the proposed grant project including the needs to be addressed, the proposed services, and the population group(s) to be served.

Please place the following at the top of the abstract:

- Project Title
- Applicant Name
- Address
- Contact Phone Numbers (Voice, Fax)
- E-Mail Address
- Web Site Address, if applicable

The project abstract must be single-spaced and limited to one page in length.

# **Objectives And Need For Assistance**

Clearly identify the physical, economic, social, financial, institutional, and/or other problem(s) requiring a solution. The need for assistance, including the nature and scope of the problem, must be demonstrated, and the principal and subordinate objectives of the project must be clearly and concisely stated. Supporting documentation, such as letters of support and testimonials from concerned interests other than the applicant, may be included. Any relevant data based on planning studies or needs assessments should be included or referred to in the endnotes/footnotes. Incorporate demographic data and participant/beneficiary information, as needed. In developing the project description, the applicant may volunteer or be requested to provide information on the total range of projects currently being conducted and supported (or to be initiated), some of which may be outside the scope of the funding opportunity announcement.

# **Outcomes Expected**

Identify the outcomes to be derived from the project.

Applicants must identify outcomes related to ORR's expectation that refugees and asylees who have been determined to be Survivors of Torture successfully resettle in the U.S. through receipt of services that address the multitude of needs as mentioned in *Section I. The Funding Opportunity Description*. This would include the outcomes related to the 17 OLDC data points, and the accompanying narrative. ORR will be seeking approval of its 17 demographic and output data points through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

# **Approach**

Outline a plan of action that describes the scope and detail of how the proposed work will be accomplished. Account for all functions or activities identified in the application. Cite factors that might accelerate or decelerate the work and state your reason for taking the proposed approach rather than other approaches. Describe any unusual features of the project such as design or technological innovations, reductions in cost or time, or extraordinary social and community involvement.

Provide quantitative monthly or quarterly projections of the outcomes to be achieved for each function or activity in such terms as the number of people to be served and the number of activities accomplished. Data may be organized and presented as project tasks and subtasks with their corresponding timelines during the project period. For example, each project task could be assigned to a row in the first column of a grid. Then, a unit of time could be assigned to each subsequent column, beginning with the first unit (i.e., week, month, quarter) of the project and ending with the last. Shading, arrows, or other markings could be used across the applicable grid boxes or cells, representing units of time, to indicate the approximate duration and/or frequency of each task and its start and end dates within the project period.

When accomplishments cannot be quantified by activity or function, list them in chronological order to show the schedule of accomplishments and their target dates.

Provide a list of organizations, cooperating entities, consultants, or other key individuals who will work on the project, along with a short description of the nature of their effort or contribution.

# TORTURE SERVICES REQUIREMENTS

Applicants may propose all or a combination of the services as described in *Section I. The Funding Opportunity Description*. If an applicant does not propose to provide all of the allowable services directly, the application should describe how they will ensure that clients can access the other services if needed. Partnerships may be formed with other community service providers in order to provide torture survivors with access to the full complement of allowable services. Training activities may also be conducted for community service providers who have access to or work with torture survivors.

Applicants are encouraged to design projects that incorporate collaboration with health care, mental health, social service and legal aid organizations as well as to support refugee and immigrant service providers in the community to increase their capacity for service provision to torture survivors.

Applicants should recognize that no one service is essential to restoring health in all torture survivors and should not, for instance, require psychological counseling for all clients. If a client is seeking only legal or employment assistance, access to these services should not be contingent upon mandatory participation in psychological services. Applicants must design projects that address a broad menu of client-centered services for torture survivors. Applicants must specify if their program areas of focus fall into: (a) Psychological/ Mental Health, (b) Medical Services, (c) Social Services, and (d) Legal Services or identify whether they provide a combination of these services. In designing these projects, applicants should describe what services will be offered directly be their agency and what services will be referred out to other social service, community based, faith based, State and/or tribal entities.

For those services that are referred out, the applicant should describe the design of how they arrive at the individual's specific need, how the determination is made to refer to a specific agency, is this agency part of the applicant's subcontract to provide specific services that the applicant does not, how does the applicant monitor, provide case management and satisfaction surveys to the client, inclusive of those services that are not provided by the applicant, and lastly, how does the applicant plan to obtain, maintain and use the data provided by the subcontractor or referral source. Additionally, the applicant must address the intake process, the steps taken in the event of a waiting list, the length of the waiting list, and for what services the client is waiting, if applicable. Applicants must describe the tool(s) used at the intake process. The tool(s) should not only look at physical and social health issues, but be comprehensive in

assessing mental health issues (trauma due to torture and re-traumatization, suicide risk, substance abuse, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, depression, etc.) This can be accomplished with one or more tools. Tool measurements can include surveys, PSTD Scales, interviews, observations, focus groups etc. But if the scale used is non-written, the applicant should be aware that comprehensive notes of the focus groups that include the amount of participants, interviews, and observations (by whom) need to be taken.

The applicant must provide an understanding of client eligibility for torture survivor services and, using the definition of torture given in 18 U.S.C. § 2340(1) and any ORR guidance, an appropriate plan to determine and document eligibility; a clear and feasible strategy for assisting torture survivors that demonstrates knowledge of the clients and their needs; the process by which clients have access to physical, psychological, social, and legal services for torture survivors; and the provision of client-centered services. The applicant must include in their approach the guiding service philosophy or theoretical framework which informs the programmatic service delivery model and specific service/treatment modalities. Evidence of effectiveness with survivors of torture or a strong rationale for use of the underlying philosophy and service/treatment modalities must be addressed.

The applicant must provide a detailed service plan and timeline of project activities, including training topics and schedules.

ORR requires applicants to collaborate to leverage resources. Funded partnerships may be established between organizations that have access to individuals who have been tortured and programs with specific expertise in serving torture survivors. For example, health education information and referrals for torture survivors may be more effectively delivered by community service providers (e.g. ethnic-based Mutual Assistance Associations) using staff that have been trained through partnerships with torture survivor treatment centers.

The applicant must provide a history of collaboration and leveraging of resources among local community refugee, immigrant, and mainstream providers to provide integrated and effective services and to avoid duplication of effort. Partnerships with other organizations are clearly described and documented with third-party agreements.

#### **Evaluation**

Provide a narrative addressing how the conduct of the project and its results will be evaluated. In addressing the evaluation of results, state what measures will be used to determine the extent to which the project has achieved its stated objectives and the extent to which the accomplishment of objectives can be attributed to the project. Discuss the criteria to be used to evaluate results, and explain the methodology that will be used to determine if the needs identified and discussed are being met and if the project results and benefits are being achieved. With respect to the conduct of the project, define the procedures to be employed to determine whether the project is being conducted in a manner consistent with the work plan presented and discuss the impact of the project's various activities that address the project's effectiveness.

Applicants must provide a plan on how they will collect and submit data related to the 17 demographic and output data points developed by ORR and entered into the On Line Data Collection (OLDC). The 17 demographic and output data points are: 1. Client's self-reported age when first subjected to torture; 2. Type of torture suffered; 3. Primary complaint/presenting problem; 4. Client's Sex; 5. Immigration status at intake; 6. Age at intake; 7. Employment status at intake; 8. Date of arrival in the U.S.; 9. Country of origin; 10. Ethnicity; 11. Religion; 12. Housing status at intake; 13. Total number of clients; 14. Number of clients by service category (medical, mental health, social, legal); 15. Number of community trainings held; 16. Number of people trained by profession; 17. Number of hours contributed by pro bono service.

ORR will be seeking approval of its 17 demographic and output data points through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

#### **Geographic Location**

Describe the precise location of the project and boundaries of the area to be served by the proposed project. Maps or other graphic aids may be attached.

# **Legal Status of Applicant Entity**

Applicants must provide the following documentation of their legal status:

#### **Proof of Non-Profit Status**

Non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations applying for funding are required to submit proof of their non-profit status. Proof of 501(c)(3) non-profit status is any one of the following:

- A reference to the applicant organization's listing in the IRS's most recent list of tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations described in the IRS Code.
- A copy of a currently valid IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exemption certificate.

#### **Logic Model**

Applicants are expected to use a model for designing and managing their project. A logic model is a tool that presents the conceptual framework for a proposed project and explains the linkages among program elements. While there are many versions of the logic model, they generally summarize the logical connections among the needs that are the focus of the project, project goals and objectives, the target population, project inputs (resources), the proposed activities/processes/outputs directed toward the target population, the expected short- and long-term outcomes the initiative is designed to achieve, and the evaluation plan for measuring the extent to which proposed processes and outcomes actually occur.

# **Project Sustainability Plan**

Provide a plan for sustainability that details how the proposed project approach will create project self-sufficiency and help to ensure that the impact of the project will continue after Federal assistance has ended. The applicant may include information on plans to secure additional financial resources.

#### **Organizational Capacity**

- Organizational charts
- Contact persons and telephone numbers
- Names of bond carriers
- Child care licenses and other documentation of professional accreditation
- Information on compliance with Federal/State/local government standards
- Any other pertinent information the applicant deems relevant.

Provide a biographical sketch or resume for each key person appointed. Resumes should be no more than two pages in length. Job descriptions for each vacant key position should be included as well. As new key staff are appointed, biographical sketches or resumes will also be required.

#### Protection of Sensitive and/or Confidential Information

If any confidential or sensitive information will be collected during the course of the project, whether from staff (e.g., background investigations) or project participants and/or project beneficiaries, provide a description of the methods that will be used to ensure that confidential and/or sensitive information is properly handled and safeguarded. Also provide a plan for the disposition of such information at the end of the project period.

# **Third-Party Agreements**

Provide written and signed agreements between grantees and subgrantees, or subcontractors, or other cooperating entities. These agreements must detail the scope of work to be performed, work schedules, remuneration, and other terms and conditions that structure or define the relationship.

# **Letters Of Support**

Provide statements from community, public, and commercial leaders that support the project proposed for funding. All submissions should be included in the application package or by the application deadline.

#### The Project Budget and Budget Justification

All applicants are required to submit a project budget and budget justification with their application. The project budget is input on the Budget Information Standard Form, either SF-424A or SF-424C. The budget justification is a line-item detail that includes detailed calculations for "object class categories" identified on the Budget Information Standard Form. Calculations must include estimation methods, quantities, unit costs, and other similar quantitative detail sufficient for the calculation to be duplicated. If matching or cost sharing is a requirement, applicants must include a detailed listing of any funding sources identified in Block 18 of the SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance).

Project budget Standard Forms and the budget justification will not count toward page limitations; however, the justification should be no more than 10 single-spaced pages with fonts of no less than 12-points.

Special Note: The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Pub.L. 112-74), enacted December 23, 2011, limits the salary amount that may be awarded and charged to ACF grants and cooperative agreements. Award funds issued under this announcement may not be used to pay the salary, or any percentage of salary, to an individual at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. The Executive Level II salary of the Federal Executive Pay scale is \$179,700 (http://www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/html/ex.asp). This amount reflects an individual's base salary exclusive of fringe and any income that an individual may be permitted to earn outside of the duties to the applicant organization. This salary limitation also applies to subawards/subcontracts under a ACF grant or cooperative agreement.

Provide a narrative budget justification for the first year of the proposed project. The narrative budget justification should describe how the categorical costs are derived. Discuss the necessity, reasonableness, and allocation of the proposed costs.

Applicants must allocate travel funds for at least one individual from each program to travel to Washington DC for the annual grantee conference, and for technical assistance training as needed.

#### General

Use the following guidelines for preparing the budget and budget justification. Both Federal and non-Federal resources (when required) shall be detailed and justified in the budget and budget narrative justification. "Federal resources" refers only to the ACF grant funds for which you are applying. "Non-Federal resources" are all other non-ACF Federal and non-Federal resources. It is suggested that budget amounts and computations be presented in a columnar format: first column, object class categories; second column, Federal budget; next column(s), non-Federal budget(s); and last column, total budget. The budget justification should be in a narrative form.

#### Personnel

Description: Costs of employee salaries and wages.

Justification: Identify the project director or principal investigator, if known at the time of application. For each staff person, provide: the title; time commitment to the project in months; time commitment to the project as a percentage or full-time equivalent; annual salary; grant salary; wage rates; etc. Do not include the costs of consultants, personnel costs of delegate agencies, or of specific project(s) and/or businesses to be financed by the applicant.

#### **Fringe Benefits**

Description: Costs of employee fringe benefits unless treated as part of an approved indirect cost rate.

Justification: Provide a breakdown of the amounts and percentages that comprise fringe benefit costs such as health insurance, Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes, retirement insurance, taxes, etc.

#### **Travel**

Description: Costs of project-related travel by employees of the applicant organization. (This item does not include costs of consultant travel).

Justification: For each trip show: the total number of traveler(s); travel destination; duration of trip; per diem; mileage allowances, if privately owned vehicles will be used to travel out of town; and other transportation costs and subsistence allowances. If appropriate for this project, travel costs for key staff to attend ACF-sponsored workshops should be detailed in the budget.

# **Equipment**

Description: "Equipment" means an article of nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost that equals or exceeds the lesser of: (a) the capitalization level established by the organization for the financial statement purposes, or (b) \$5,000. (Note: Acquisition cost means the net invoice unit price of an item of equipment, including the cost of any modifications, attachments, accessories, or auxiliary apparatus necessary to make it usable for the purpose for which it is acquired. Ancillary charges, such as taxes, duty, protective in-transit insurance, freight, and installation, shall be included in, or excluded from, acquisition cost in accordance with the organization's regular written accounting practices.)

Justification: For each type of equipment requested provide: a description of the equipment; the cost per unit; the number of units; the total cost; and a plan for use on the project; as well as use and/or disposal of the equipment after the project ends. An applicant organization that uses its own definition for equipment should provide a copy of its policy, or section of its policy, that includes the equipment definition.

# **Supplies**

Description: Costs of all tangible personal property other than that included under the Equipment category.

Justification: Specify general categories of supplies and their costs. Show computations and provide other information that supports the amount requested.

#### **Contractual**

Description: Costs of all contracts for services and goods except for those that belong under other categories such as equipment, supplies, construction, etc. Include third-party evaluation contracts, if applicable, and contracts with secondary recipient organizations, including delegate agencies and specific project(s) and/or businesses to be financed by the applicant.

Justification: Demonstrate that all procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner to provide, to the maximum extent practical, open and free competition. Recipients and subrecipients, other than States that are required to use 45 C.F.R. Part 92 procedures, must justify any anticipated procurement action that is expected to be awarded without competition and exceeds the simplified acquisition threshold fixed at 41 U.S.C. § 403(11), currently set at \$100,000. Recipients may be required to make pre-award review and procurement documents, such as requests for proposals or invitations for bids, independent cost estimates, etc. available to ACF.

Note: Whenever the applicant intends to delegate part of the project to another agency, the applicant must provide a detailed budget and budget narrative for each delegate agency, by agency title, along with the same supporting information referred to in these instructions.

#### Other

Description: Enter the total of all other costs. Such costs, where applicable and appropriate, may include but are not limited to: local travel; insurance; food; medical and dental costs (noncontractual); professional services costs; space and equipment rentals; printing and publication; computer use; training costs, such as tuition and stipends; staff development costs; and administrative costs.

Justification: Provide computations, a narrative description and a justification for each cost under this category.

#### **Indirect Charges**

Description: Total amount of indirect costs. This category should be used only when the applicant currently has an indirect cost rate approved by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) or another cognizant Federal agency.

Justification: An applicant that will charge indirect costs to the grant must enclose a copy of the current rate agreement. If the applicant organization is in the process of initially developing or renegotiating a rate, upon notification that an award will be made, it should immediately develop a tentative indirect cost rate proposal based on its most recently completed fiscal year, in accordance with the cognizant agency's guidelines for establishing indirect cost rates, and submit it to the cognizant agency. Applicants awaiting approval of their indirect cost proposals may also request indirect costs. When an indirect cost rate is requested, those costs included in the indirect cost pool should not be charged as direct costs to the grant. Also, if the applicant is requesting a rate that is less than what is allowed under the program, the authorized representative of the applicant organization must submit a signed acknowledgement that the applicant is accepting a lower rate than allowed.

# **Program Income**

Description: The estimated amount of income, if any, expected to be generated from this project.

Justification: Describe the nature, source and anticipated use of program income in the budget or refer to the pages in the application that contain this information.

# **Paperwork Reduction Disclaimer**

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. §§ 3501-3520, the public reporting burden for the Project Description is estimated to average 40 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection information. The Project Description information collection is approved under OMB control number 0970-0139, which expires 11/30/2012. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

# **Application Submission Options**

# Electronic Submission via www.Grants.gov

- Electronic applications must be submitted to <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> by 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date.
- A DUNS Number and current registration at the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) are required. DUNS and CCR registration are part of the <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> registration process. See "Get Registered" at <a href="http://grants.gov/applicants/get">http://grants.gov/applicants/get</a> registered.jsp.
- ACF will not accept applications via facsimile or email.
- The electronic application can be downloaded from www.Grants.gov.
- It is to an applicant's advantage to submit their applications at least 24 hours in advance of the application due date and time in order to correct any failures found during the application validation check.
- Electronic submission at <u>www.Grants.gov</u> is two-step process:
  - Submission by the due date and time; and
  - Application validation check.
- Electronically submitted applications will not pass the validation check at Grants.gov if the AOR does not have a current CCR registration and electronic signature credentials.
- Read and observe all application submission requirements provided at <a href="http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply">http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply</a> for grants.jsp.
- Observe the formatting requirements and page limitations provided in the *Section IV.2. Formatting ACF Applications* section for electronic applications.
- Carefully read and observe electronic file naming conventions provided in the application submission instructions at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply for grants.jsp.
- Use only file formats supported by ACF. See Section IV.2. Formatting ACF Applications.
- Additional guidance on the submission of electronic applications can be found at http://www.grants.gov/assets/Organization Steps Complete Registration.pdf.
- If applicants encounter any technical difficulties in using <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>, contact the Grants.gov
  Contact Center at:1-800-518-4726, or by email at <a href="support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>, to report the problem and obtain assistance. Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Grants.gov Contact
  Center is closed on Federal holidays.
- Applicants should retain Grants.gov Contact Center service ticket number(s) as they may be needed for future reference.
- Applicants that submit their applications electronically should retain a hard copy of their application package.
- Contact with the Grants.gov Contact Center prior to the listed due date and time does not ensure acceptance of your application. If difficulties are encountered, the Grants Management Officer listed in *Section VII. Agency Contacts* will determine whether the submission issues are due to Grants.gov system errors or user error.

# Application Validation at www.Grants.gov

After an applicant submits an application; Grants.gov generates a submission receipt via email and also sets the application status to "Received." This receipt verifies the application has been successfully

delivered to the Grants.gov system.

Next, Grants.gov verifies the submission is valid by ensuring it does not contain viruses, the funding opportunity announcement is still open, and that the applicant login and applicant DUNS number match. If the submission is valid, Grants.gov generates a submission validation receipt via email and sets the application status to "Validated."

If the application is not validated, the application status is set to "Rejected." The system sends a rejection email notification to the applicant and the applicant must re-submit the application package. See <u>"What to Expect After Submitting"</u> at <u>www.Grants.gov</u> for more information.

Each time an application is submitted, or re-submitted, via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>, the application will receive a new date and time stamp. Only those applications with on-time date and time stamps, which result in a validated application and are transmitted to ACF, will be acknowledged.

Applicants will be provided with an acknowledgement from <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> that the submitted application package has passed, or failed, a series of checks and validations. Applications that are submitted on time that fail the validation check will not be transmitted to ACF and will not be acknowledged.

# Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission

ACF recognizes that some applicants may have limited or no Internet access, and/or limited computer capacity, which may prohibit them from uploading large files to the Internet at <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>. To accommodate such applicants, ACF offers an exemption from required electronic submission. The exemption will allow applicants to submit hard copy, paper applications by hand-delivery, applicant courier, overnight/express mail couriers, or by other representatives of the applicant.

To receive an exemption from required electronic application submission, applicants must submit a written request to ACF stating that the applicant qualifies for the exemption for one of two reasons:

- Lack of Internet access or Internet connection, or
- Limited computer capacity that prevents the uploading of large documents (files) to the Internet at www.Grants.gov.

Applicants may request and receive the exemption from required electronic application submission by either:

- Submitting an email request to electronicappexemption@acf.hhs.gov, or
- Sending a written request to the Office of Grants Management Contact listed in *Section VII. Agency Contacts* in this announcement.

An exemption is applicable to all applications submitted by the applicant organization during the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) in which it is received. Applicants need only request an exemption once in a FFY. Applicants will need to request a new exemption from required electronic submission for any succeeding FFY.

Please Note: electronicappexemption@acf.hhs.gov may be used only to request an exemption from required application submission. All other inquiries must be directed to the appropriate Agency Contact listed in Section VII. of this announcement. Queries submitted to this email address that make requests for any reason other than a request for an exemption will not be acknowledged or answered.

Exemption requests by email to <u>electronicappexemption@acf.hhs.gov</u> and by postal mail must include:

• Funding Opportunity Announcement Title,

- Funding Opportunity Number (FON),
- The listed Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number,
- Name of Applicant Organization and DUNS Number,
- AOR name and contact information.
- Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving the application, and
- The reason for which the applicant is requesting an exemption from electronic application submission. The reason must be either the lack of Internet access or connection, or lack of computer capacity that prevents uploading large documents (files) to the Internet.

Exemption requests must be *received by* ACF no later than two weeks before the application due date, that is, 14 calendar days prior to the application due date listed in the *Overview* and in *Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times*. If the fourteenth calendar day falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, the due date for receipt of an exemption request will move to the next Federal business day that follows the weekend or Federal holiday.

Applicants may refer to *Section VIII*. *Other Information* for a checklist of application requirements that may be used in developing and organizing application materials. Details concerning acknowledgment of received applications are available in *Section IV.3*. *Submission Dates and Times* of this announcement.

# **Paper Format Application Submission**

An exemption is now required for the submission of paper applications. See "Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission."

Applicants with exemptions that submit their applications in paper format, by mail or delivery, must submit one original and two copies of the complete application with all attachments. The original and each of the two copies must include all required forms, certifications, assurances, and appendices, be signed by the AOR, and be unbound. The original copy of the application must have original signature(s). See *Section IV.6* of this announcement for address information for paper format application submissions.

Applications submitted in paper format must show a DUNS Number. A DUNS Number is a nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities. A DUNS number may be acquired at no cost online at <a href="http://www.dnb.com">http://www.dnb.com</a>. To acquire a DUNS number by phone, contact the D&B Government Customer Response Center: U.S. and U.S Virgin Islands: 1-866-705-5711; Alaska and Puerto Rico: 1-800-234-3867 (Select Option 2, then Option 1). Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., CST.

As of October 1, 2010, all applicants for Federal grants and cooperative agreements, including those that apply in paper format, are required to have Central Contractor Registration (CCR). CCR registration is also required for organizations that will receive subawards under Federal grants and cooperative agreements. CCR registration may be made online at <a href="https://www.ccr.gov">www.ccr.gov</a> or by phone at 1-866-606-8220.

CCR registration must be updated annually from the date of the initial registration. CCR registration is required to be active throughout the period of award. Lack of CCR registration will prevent ACF from making an award to a recommended applicant.

There is the possibility of heavy traffic at the CCR website on application due dates. Applicants are strongly encouraged to register at the CCR well in advance of the application due date. CCR registration must be active and maintained with current information at all times during which an organization has an active award or an application under consideration.

Applicants may refer to *Section VIII*. *Other Information* for a checklist of application requirements that may be used in developing and organizing application materials. Details concerning acknowledgment of received applications are available in *Section IV.3*. *Submission Dates and Times* in this announcement.

#### IV.3. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications: 08/06/2012

#### **Explanation of Due Dates**

The due date for receipt of applications is listed in the *Overview* section and in this section. See *Section III.3. Application Disqualification Factors*.

#### **Electronic Applications**

The deadline for submission of electronic applications via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> is 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date. Electronic applications submitted at 12:00 a.m., ET, on the day after the due date will be considered late and will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

Applicants are required to submit their applications electronically via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> unless they received an exemption through the process described in Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission.

ACF does not accommodate transmission of applications by email or facsimile.

Instructions for electronic submission via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> are available at <a href="http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply">http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply</a> for grants.jsp.

#### Please note:

Applications submitted to <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> at any time during the open application period, and prior to the due date and time that fail the Grants.gov validation check will not be received at ACF. **These applications will not be acknowledged.** Applications that fail the Grants.gov validation check will not be transmitted to ACF though they may have been submitted on time.

Each time an application is submitted via <u>www.Grants.gov</u>, the application will receive a new date and time-stamp. Only those applications with date and time-stamps that result in a validated application, which is transmitted to ACF, will be acknowledged.

#### **Mailed Paper Format Applications**

The deadline for mailed paper applications is 4:30 p.m., ET, on the due date. Mailed paper applications received after the due date and deadline time will be considered late and will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

Paper format application submissions will be disqualified if the applicant organization has not received an exemption through the process described in *Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission*.

# **Hand-Delivered Paper Format Applications**

Applications that are hand-delivered by applicants, applicant couriers, by overnight/express mail couriers, or other representatives of the applicant must be received on, or before, the due date listed in the *Overview* 

and in this section. These applications must be delivered between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday (excluding Federal holidays). Applications should be delivered to the address provided in *Section IV.6.Other Submission Requirements*.

Hand-delivered paper applications received after the due date and deadline time will be considered late and will be disqualified from competitive review and from funding under this announcement.

Hand-delivered paper format application submissions will be disqualified if the applicant organization has not received an exemption through the process described in *Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission*.

# No appeals will be considered for applications classified as late under the following circumstances:

- Applications submitted electronically via <u>www.Grants.gov</u> are considered late when they are dated and time-stamped after the deadline of 11:59 p.m., ET, on the due date.
- Paper format applications received by mail or hand-delivery after 4:30 p.m., ET, on the due date will be classified as late and will be disqualified.
- Paper format applications received from applicant organizations that were not approved for an exemption from required electronic application submission under the process described in *Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Submission* will be disqualified.

# Extensions and/or Waiving Due Date and Receipt Time Requirements

ACF may extend an application due date and receipt time when circumstances make it impossible for applicants to submit their applications on time. These events include natural disasters (floods, hurricanes, tornados, etc.), or when there are widespread disruptions of electrical service, or mail service, or in other rare cases. The determination to extend or waive due date and/or receipt time requirements rests with the Grants Management Officer listed as the Office of Grants Management Contact in Section VII. Agency Contacts.

# Acknowledgement from www.Grants.gov of an electronic application's submission:

Applicants will receive an initial email upon submission of their application to <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>. This email will provide a **Grants.gov Tracking Number**. Applicants should refer to this tracking number in all communication with Grants.gov. The email will also provide a **date and time stamp**, which serves as the official record of the application's submission. The date and time-stamp must reflect a submission time on, or before, 11:59 p.m., ET, on the application due date. Receipt of this email does not indicate that the application is accepted or that is has passed the validation check.

Each time an application is submitted, or resubmitted, via <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>, the application will receive a new date and time-stamp. Only those applications with on-time date and time-stamps that result in a validated application, which is transmitted to ACF, will be acknowledged.

Applicants will be provided with an acknowledgement from <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> that the submitted application package has passed, or failed, a series of checks and validations. Applications that are submitted on time that fail the validation check will not be transmitted to ACF and will not be acknowledged.

See "What to Expect After Submitting" at www.Grants.gov for more information.

# Acknowledgement from ACF of an electronic application's submission:

Applicants will be sent additional email(s) from ACF acknowledging that the application has been retrieved from <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> by ACF. Receipt of these emails is not an indication that the application is accepted for competition.

#### Acknowledgement from ACF of a paper format (hard copy) application's submission:

ACF will not provide acknowledgement of receipt of hard copy application packages submitted via mail or courier services.

# IV.4. Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs

This program is covered under Executive Order (E.O.) 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," and 45 CFR Part 100, "Intergovernmental Review of Department of Health and Human Services Programs and Activities." Under the Executive Order, States may design their own processes for reviewing and commenting on proposed Federal assistance under covered programs.

Applicants should go to the following URL for the official list of the jurisdictions that have elected to participate in E.O. 12372 <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants</a> spoc/.

Applicants from participating jurisdictions should contact their SPOC, as soon as possible, to alert them of their prospective applications and to receive instructions on their jurisdiction's procedures. Applicants must submit all required application materials to the SPOC and indicate the date of submission on the Standard Form (SF) 424 at item 19.

Under 45 CFR 100.8(a)(2), a SPOC has 60 days from the application due date to comment on proposed new awards.

SPOC comments may be submitted directly to ACF to: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Grants Management, Division of Discretionary Grants, 370 L'Enfant Promenade SW., 6th Floor East, Washington, DC 20447.

Entities that meet the eligibility requirements of this announcement are still eligible to apply for a grant even if a State, Territory or Commonwealth, etc., does not have a SPOC or has chosen not to participate in the process. Applicants from non-participating jurisdictions need take no action with regard to E.O. 12372. Applications from Federally-recognized Indian Tribal governments are not subject to E.O. 12372.

#### **IV.5. Funding Restrictions**

Costs of organized fund raising, including financial campaigns, endowment drives, solicitation of gifts and bequests, and similar expenses incurred solely to raise capital or obtain contributions, are considered unallowable costs under grants or cooperative agreements awarded under this funding opportunity announcement.

Grant awards will not allow reimbursement of pre-award costs.

Construction is not an allowable activity or expenditure under this grant award.

Purchase of real property is not an allowable activity or expenditure under this grant award.

As referenced in 45 CFR 74.81, United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) funds are prohibited from being paid as profit to any recipient even if the recipient is a commercial organization. Profit is defined as any amount in excess of allowable direct and indirect costs.

Funds may not be used to cover costs incurred in connection with any criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding commenced by the Federal Government or a State, or local government if the proceeding relates to a violation of, or failure to comply with, a Federal, State or local statute or regulation by the organization and results in the imposition of a monetary penalty or a final decision to debar or suspend the organization, rescind or void an award, or to terminate an award (OMB Circulars A-122, A-87, and FAR 31.2). Moreover, costs of legal, accounting, and consultant services, and related costs, incurred "in connection with defense against Federal Government claims or appeals . . . or the prosecution of claims or appeals against the Federal Government, are unallowable" (OMB Circulars A-122, A-87, and FAR 31.2).

# IV.6. Other Submission Requirements

Submit paper applications to one of the following addresses. See *Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission*.

#### **Submission By Mail**

Daphne Weeden, Director

US Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children and Families

Office of Grants Management, Division of Discretionary Grants

370 L'Enfant Promenade SW, 6th Floor East

Washington, DC 20447

#### **Hand Delivery**

Daphne Weeden, Director

US Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children and Families

Office of Grants Management, Division of Discretionary Grants

901 D Street SW

ACF Mailroom (near loading dock), 2nd Floor

Washington, DC 20024

#### **Electronic Submission**

See *Section IV.2* for application requirements and for guidance when submitting applications electronically via <a href="http://www.Grants.gov">http://www.Grants.gov</a>.

For all submissions, see Section IV.3 for information on due dates and times.

#### V. Application Review Information

#### V.1. Criteria

Applications competing for financial assistance will be reviewed and evaluated using the criteria described in this section. The corresponding point values indicate the relative importance placed on each review criterion. Points will be allocated based on the extent to which the application proposal addresses each of the criteria listed. Applicants should address these criteria in their application materials, particularly in the project description and budget justification, as they are the basis upon which competing applications will be judged during the objective review. The required elements of the project description and budget

justification may be found in Section IV.2 of this announcement.

The following evaluation criteria appear according to the sequence they are to be included in the funding application (see *Section VIII. Other Information* for a checklist specifying the information to be included and the order it is to be presented in the application). The corresponding score values indicate the relative importance that ACF places on each evaluation criterion. The evaluation criteria are based on the information required in the application as described in *Section I. Funding Opportunity Description* and *Section IV.2. The Project Description*.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND NEED FOR ASSISTANCE**

**Maximum Points: 20** 

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has demonstrated: a strong need for services to survivors of torture in the proposed geographic area of service, along with supporting data; a clear needs assessment of the target population; and sufficient experience with, and knowledge of, these clients to assess their needs accurately (0 to 10 points).

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has clearly identified: the causes of the problem or situation described in the needs statement (why do these needs exist?); the consequences of not meeting these needs; and relevant objectives that present an appropriate purpose and goal for the program (0 to 10 points).

#### RESULTS OR BENEFITS EXPECTED

**Maximum Points: 15** 

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has clearly described specific client-based outcomes that show improvement in the problems or situation described in the needs statement. Realistic outcome targets are included such as the number and percent of clients projected to achieve each outcome. Indicators of success for each outcome are provided, along with data sources, data collection and analysis methods, and time frames. A logic model is included in the application which, presents the outcomes projected as a result of the proposed project (0 to 15 points).

APPROACH Maximum Points: 18

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has described: the geographic area(s) to be served by the project; understanding of client eligibility for torture survivor services and, using the definition of torture given in 18 U.S.C. § 2340(1) and any ORR guidance, an appropriate plan to determine and document eligibility; a clear and feasible strategy for assisting torture survivors that demonstrates knowledge of the clients and their needs; the process by which clients have access to physical, psychological, social, and legal services for torture survivors; and the provision of client-centered services. The approach clearly addresses the causes, as cited under *Section IV.2. The Project Description* of the problem(s) requiring a solution (0 to 8 points).

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has provided: a service plan, logic model, and timeline of project activities that are reasonable, comprehensive, and have a strong likelihood of success in enabling torture survivors to rebuild their health and independence and become productive members of the community; and a clear description of the guiding service philosophy or theoretical framework which informs the programmatic service delivery model and specific service/treatment modalities. Evidence of effectiveness with survivors of torture or a strong rationale for use of the underlying philosophy and service/treatment modalities is included (0 to 10 points).

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant identifies: a history of collaboration and leveraging of resources among local community refugee, immigrant, and mainstream providers to provide integrated and effective services and to avoid duplication of effort. Partnerships with other

organizations are clearly described and documented with Third-Party Agreements. Where training activities for community service providers are proposed, the application provides a plan for conducting these activities, including training topics and schedules. A description is included of the provision of training to service providers who are likely to have access to torture survivors. Such training is to provide appropriate services to clients suffering the results of torture (0 to 5 points).

EVALUATION Maximum Points: 12

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has clearly demonstrated: responsiveness to the 17 demographic and output data points developed by ORR for the torture survivors program; and/or a plan to collect and submit the data to ORR on a semi-annual basis (0 to 12 points).

ORR will be seeking approval of its 17 demographic and output data points through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

**Maximum Points: 20** 

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has demonstrated: the organization's capacity to provide assistance to torture survivors and, when proposed, training and partnering with community providers; the ability to effectively implement and manage the programmatic and financial aspects of the project; and the development of funding diversification and sustainability in support of program activities. Documentation includes: agency mission and organizational chart; and a management plan for the project containing systems of client records, program records, and financial management (0 to 10 points).

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has provided: job descriptions and biographical sketches or resumes of key project staff; clear descriptions of the proposed staff's appropriate professional background, work experience, and linguistic and cultural capacity to serve clients; job descriptions for vacant key positions; and an appropriate plan to conduct staff orientation, ongoing training, and supervision to ensure the necessary knowledge and capacity to deliver effective services for torture survivors. Include contractual and pro bono providers in this plan (0 to 5 points).

The application will be evaluated to the extent that the applicant has clearly described: a history of experience serving torture survivors such as a treatment center or other organization that provides physical, psychological, social, or legal services to survivors; and information on prior outcomes achieved, promising practices developed, and past challenges and successes in serving torture survivors (0 to 5 points).

#### BUDGET AND BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

**Maximum Points: 15** 

The applicant has demonstrated the cost effectiveness of the program and the necessity, reasonableness, and allocability of proposed costs. Discussion is included of how applicants are leveraging and ensuring that other federal funds are kept separate from this grant. Funding may not be pooled and costs must be properly allocated to each grant. Examples of other federal programs that may be leveraged are: Medicaid, Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA), and private health coverage for client fees, when available. (0 to 3 points)

The application must include a budget that documents and justifies the amounts requested. The budget request is realistic for the project and reflects the goals of the project. (0 to 5 points)

The costs of the proposed project are reasonable in view of the types and range or activities and services

to be conducted, the number of participants to be served, and the expect results and benefits. (0 to 3 points)

The application demonstrates strong evidence that the organization has the fiscal, administrative, and performance management capacity to effectively administer grant funds. The description is complete and demonstrates the organization's ability to comply with Federal rules and regulations related the grant's fiscal and administrative requirements. (0 to 4 points)

#### V.2. Review and Selection Process

No grant award will be made under this announcement on the basis of an incomplete application. No grant award will be made to an applicant that does not have an active CCR registration (<u>www.ccr.gov</u> or 1-866-606-8220).

# **Initial ACF Screening**

Each application will be screened to determine whether it meets one of the following disqualification criteria as described in *Section III.3*. *Application Disqualification Factors*:

- Applications that are designated as late according to Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times,
- Applications that are submitted in paper format without prior approval of an exemption from required electronic submission (Section IV.2. Request an Exemption from Required Electronic Application Submission), or
- Applications with requests that exceed the award ceiling stated in Section II. Award Information.

For those applications that have been disqualified under the initial ACF screening, notice will be provided by postal mail or by email. See *Section IV.3. Explanation of Due Dates* for information on Grants.gov's and ACF's acknowledgment of received applications.

#### **Objective Review and Results**

Applications competing for financial assistance will be reviewed and evaluated by objective review panels using the criteria described in *Section V.1. Criteria* of this announcement. Each panel is composed of experts with knowledge and experience in the area under review. Generally, review panels include three reviewers and one chairperson.

Results of the competitive objective review are taken into consideration by ACF in the selection of projects for funding; however, objective review scores and rankings are not binding. They are one element in the decision-making process.

ACF may elect not to fund applicants with management or financial problems that would indicate an inability to successfully complete the proposed project. Applications may be funded in whole or in part. Successful applicants may be funded at an amount lower than that requested. ACF reserves the right to consider preferences to fund organizations serving emerging, unserved, or under-served populations, including those populations located in pockets of poverty. ACF will also consider the geographic distribution of Federal funds in its award decisions.

ACF may refuse funding for projects with what it regards as unreasonably high start-up costs for facilities or equipment, or for projects with unreasonably high operating costs.

Please refer to *Section IV.2*. of this announcement for information on non-Federal reviewers in the review process.

#### **Approved but Unfunded Applications**

Applications recommended for approval that were not funded under the competition because of the lack of available funds may be held over by ACF and reconsidered in a subsequent review cycle if a future competition under the program area is planned. These applications will be held over for a period of up to one year and will be re-competed for funding with all other competing applications in the next available review cycle. For those applications that have been deemed as approved but unfunded, notice will be given of such determination by postal mail.

# V.3. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Announcement of awards and the disposition of applications will be provided to applicants at a later date.

#### VI. Award Administration Information

#### VI.1. Award Notices

Successful applicants will be notified through the issuance of a Notice of Award (NoA) that sets forth the amount of funds granted, the terms and conditions of the grant, the effective date of the grant, the budget period for which initial support will be given, the non-Federal share to be provided (if applicable), and the total project period for which support is contemplated. The NoA will be signed by the Grants Officer and transmitted via postal mail or email. Following the finalization of funding decisions, organizations whose applications will not be funded will be notified by letter signed by the cognizant Program Office head. Any other correspondence that announces to a Principal Investigator, or a Project Director, that an application was selected is not an authorization to begin performance.

Project costs that are incurred prior to the receipt of the NoA are at the recipient's risk and may be reimbursed only to the extent that they are considered allowable as approved pre-award costs. Information on allowable pre-award costs and the time period under which they may be incurred is available in *Section IV.5. Funding Restrictions*.

#### VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Awards issued under this announcement are subject to the uniform administrative requirements and cost principles of 45 C.F.R. Part 74 (Awards And Subawards To Institutions Of Higher Education, Hospitals, Other Nonprofit Organizations, And Commercial Organizations) or 45 C.F.R. Part 92 (Grants And Cooperative Agreements To State, Local, And Tribal Governments). The Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) is available at <a href="http://www.gpo.gov">http://www.gpo.gov</a>.

An application funded with the release of Federal funds through a grant award does not constitute, or imply, compliance with Federal regulations. Funded organizations are responsible for ensuring that their activities comply with all applicable Federal regulations.

#### **Prohibition Against Profit**

Grantees are subject to the limitations set forth in 45 C.F.R. Part 74, Subpart E-Special Provisions for Awards to Commercial Organizations (45 C.F.R. Part 74.81\_Prohibition against profit), which states that, "... no HHS funds may be paid as profit to any recipient even if the recipient is a commercial organization. Profit is any amount in excess of allowable direct and indirect costs."

# **Equal Treatment for Faith-Based Organizations**

Grantees are also subject to the requirements of 45 C.F.R. Part 87.1(c), Equal Treatment for Faith-Based Organizations, which says, "Organizations that receive direct financial assistance from the [Health and Human Services] Department under any Department program may not engage in inherently religious activities such as religious instruction, worship, or proselytization as part of the programs or services funded with direct financial assistance from the Department." Therefore, organizations must take steps to completely separate the presentation of any program with religious content from the presentation of the Federally funded program by time or location *in such a way that it is clear that the two programs are separate and distinct.* If separating the two programs by time but presenting them in the same location, one program must *completely* end before the other program begins.

A faith-based organization receiving HHS funds retains its independence from Federal, State, and local governments, and may continue to carry out its mission, including the definition, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs. For example, a faith-based organization may use space in its facilities to provide secular programs or services funded with Federal funds without removing religious art, icons, scriptures, or other religious symbols. In addition, a faith-based organization that receives Federal funds retains its authority over its internal governance, and it may retain religious terms in its organization's name, select its board members on a religious basis, and include religious references in its organization's mission statements and other governing documents in accordance with all program requirements, statutes, and other applicable requirements governing the conduct of HHS funded activities.

Regulations pertaining to the Equal Treatment for Faith-Based Organizations, which includes the prohibition against Federal funding of inherently religious activities, Understanding the Regulations Related to the Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships Initiative" are available at <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/about/regulations/">http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/about/regulations/</a>. Additional information, resources, and tools for faith-based organizations is available through The Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships website at <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/index.html">http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/index.html</a> and at the <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships/index.html">Administration for Children & Families: Toolkit for Faith-based and Community Organizations</a>.

# Award Term and Condition under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000

Awards issued under this announcement are subject to the requirements of Section 106 (g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7104). For the full text of the award term, go to <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/award\_term.html">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/award\_term.html</a>. If you are unable to access this link, please contact the Grants Management Contact identified in *Section VII. Agency Contacts* of this announcement to obtain a copy of the term.

# **Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace**

The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. § 8102 et seq.) requires that all organizations receiving grants from any Federal agency agree to maintain a drug-free workplace. By signing the application, the Authorizing Official agrees that the grantee will provide a drug-free workplace and will comply with the requirement to notify ACF if an employee is convicted of violating a criminal drug statute. Failure to comply with these requirements may be cause for debarment. Government wide requirements for Drug-Free Workplace for Financial Assistance are found in 2 C.F.R. part 182; HHS implementing regulations are set forth in 2 C.F.R. part 382.400. All recipients of ACF grant funds must comply with the requirements in Subpart B - Requirements for Recipients Other Than Individuals, 2 C.F.R. part 382.225. The rule is available atRequirements for Drug-Free Workplace.

HHS regulations published in 2 CFR part 376 implement the governmentwide debarment and suspension system guidance (2 CFR part 180) for HHS' non-procurement programs and activities. "Non-procurement transactions" include, among other things, grants, cooperative agreements, scholarships, fellowships, and loans. ACF implements the HHS Debarment and Suspension regulations as a term and condition of award. Grantees may decide the method and frequency by which this determination is made and may check the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS) located at <a href="https://www.epls.gov/">https://www.epls.gov/</a>, although checking the EPLS is not required. More information is available at <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants/grants/">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants/</a> resources.html.

#### **Pro-Children Act**

The Pro-Children Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 7181 through 7184, imposes restrictions on smoking in facilities where federally funded children's services are provided. HHS grants are subject to these requirements only if they meet the Act's specified coverage. The Act specifies that smoking is prohibited in any indoor facility (owned, leased, or contracted for) used for the routine or regular provision of kindergarten, elementary, or secondary education or library services to children under the age of 18. In addition, smoking is prohibited in any indoor facility or portion of a facility (owned, leased, or contracted for) used for the routine or regular provision of federally funded health care, day care, or early childhood development, including Head Start services to children under the age of 18. The statutory prohibition also applies if such facilities are constructed, operated, or maintained with Federal funds. The statute does not apply to children's services provided in private residences, facilities funded solely by Medicare or Medicaid funds, portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment, or facilities where WIC coupons are redeemed. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1,000 per violation and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity.

#### **HHS Grants Policy Statement**

The HHS Grants Policy Statement (HHS GPS) is the Department of Health and Human Services' single policy guide for discretionary grants and cooperative agreements. ACF grant awards are subject to the requirements of the HHS GPS, which covers basic grants processes, standard terms and conditions, and points of contact, as well as important agency-specific requirements. Appendices to the HHS GPS include a glossary of terms and a list of standard abbreviations for ease of reference. The general terms and conditions in the HHS GPS will apply as indicated unless there are statutory, regulatory, or award-specific requirements to the contrary that are specified in the Notice of Award (NoA). The HHS GPS is available ahttp://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants\_related.html.

#### VI.3. Reporting

Grantees under this funding opportunity announcement will be required to submit performance progress and financial reports periodically throughout the project period. The frequency of required reporting is listed later in this section. Final reports may be submitted in hard copy to the Grants Management Office Contact listed in *Section VII. Agency Contacts* of this announcement. Instructions on submission of reports electronically will be provided with award documents.

#### **Performance Progress Reports (PPR)**

ACF grantees are required to submit the SF-PPR Cover Page. ACF Program Offices that utilize reporting forms or formats in addition to, or instead of, the SF-PPR have listed the reporting requirements later in this section.

Grant award documents will inform grantees of the appropriate performance progress report form or

format to use. Grantees should consult their award documents to determine the appropriate performance progress report format required under their award. Performance progress reports are due 30 days after the end of the reporting period.

Final program performance reports are due 90 days after the close of the project period. The SF-PPR may be found athttp://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants resources.html.

# **Federal Financial Reports (FFR)**

As of February 1, 2011, HHS began the transition from use of the SF-269, Financial Status Report (Short Form or Long Form) to the use of the SF-425 Federal Financial Report for expenditure reporting. SF-269s will no longer be accepted for expenditure reports due after that date. If an SF-269 is submitted, the ACF will return it and require the recipient to complete the SF-425.

The transition strategy is allowing individual HHS Operating Divisions to select--from a limited number of options--the approach that best fits their programs and business process. This transition does not affect completion or submission of the cash reporting to the HHS Division of Payment Management's Payment Management System (PMS). The primary features of this transition for recipients are that OPDIVs that previously required electronic submission of the SF-269 will receive the SF-425 expenditure reports electronically and, until further notice, OPDIVs that have been receiving expenditure reports in hard copy will continue to do so.

All expenditure reports will be due on one of the standard due dates by which cash reporting is required to be submitted to PMS or at the end of a calendar quarter as determined by the Operating Division. As a result, a recipient that receives awards from more than one OPDIV may be subject to more than one approach, but will not be required to change its current means of submission or be subjected to more than eight standard due dates.

Beginning with budget periods which end from January 1 - March 31, 2011, and for <u>all</u> budget periods thereafter, all affected ACF grantees will be required to submit an SF-425 report as frequently as is required in the terms and conditions of their award using due dates for reports to PMS.

# For budget periods ending in the months of: The FFR (SF-425) is due to ACF on:

January 01 through March 31 April 30
April 01 through June 30 July 30
July 01 through September 30 October 30
October 01 through December 31 January 30

Fillable versions of the SF-425 form in Adobe PDF and MS-Excel formats, along with instructions, are available at <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants\_forms">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants\_forms</a>, <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants\_forms">www.forms.gov</a>, and on the <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants\_forms">ACF Funding Opportunity Website Forms</a> page.

Further instructions will be provided, as necessary, with award terms and conditions that will address specific reporting periods and due dates on an award-by-award basis. Additional information on frequency of reporting is available on the ACF Funding Opportunities website at <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/msg">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/msg</a> sf425.html.

For planning purposes, ACF reporting periods for awards made under this announcement are as follows:

Program Progress Reports: Semi-Annually Financial Reports: Semi-Annually

Awards issued as a result of this funding opportunity may be subject to the Transparency Act subaward and executive compensation reporting requirements of 2 C.F.R. Part 170. See ACF's <u>Award Term for Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Subaward and Executive Compensation Reporting Requirement implementing this requirement and additional award applicability information.</u>

#### SF-428 Tangible Property Report and SF-429 Real Property Status Report

As of April 1, 2012, the Administration for Children and Families will begin requiring the use of the SF-428 (Tangible Personal Property Form) as well as the SF-429 (Real Property Status Report).

The SF-428 is a standard form to be used by awarding agencies to collect information related to tangible personal property (equipment and supplies) when required by a Federal financial assistance award. The form consists of the cover sheet (SF-428) and three attachments to be used as required: Annual Report; Final (Award Closeout) Report and a Disposition Request/Report. A Supplemental Sheet, SF-428S, may be used to provide detailed individual item information.

The SF-429 is a standard report to be used by recipients of Federal financial assistance to report real property status (Attachment A) or to request agency instructions on real property (Attachments B, C) that was/will be provided as Government Furnished Property (GFP) or acquired (i.e., purchased or constructed) in whole or in part under a Federal financial assistance award (i.e., grant, cooperative agreement, etc.). This includes real property that was improved using Federal funds and real property that was donated to a Federal project in the form of a match or cost share donation. This report is to be used for awards that establish a Federal Interest on real property.

Beginning with budget periods ending September 30, 2012 and for all budget periods thereafter, all ACF grantees will be required to submit (as applicable) an SF-428 and SF-429 report as frequently as is required in the terms and conditions of their award.

The forms are available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants forms.

ORR currently collects data via the HHS/ACF/ORR On Line Data Collection (OLDC) system.

Successful grantees will be subject to a semi-annual progress reporting period: Reports are due in OLDC within 30 days after the end of the reporting period. The semi-annual progress reporting periods are: September 30 to March 31 (due to ORR on or before April 30), and April 1 to September 30 (due to ORR on or before October 1). The grantees annual work plan is due with the semi-annual progress report due to ORR on April 30. If due to an act of nature, man made or other disaster, the grantee should inform ORR immediately, in writing (by email to the Program Manager or certified United States Postal Service), to request a delay in submitting their semi-annual progress report within one calendar week of the incident. ORR will respond, and based on the circumstances, negotiate a viable due date. Otherwise, late reports may result in suspension of continued funding or other adverse action.

ORR will be seeking approval of its 17 demographic and output data points through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

ORR currently collects via the OLDC system 17 demographic and output data points. Grantees must

collect the 17 data points: 1. Client's self-reported age when first subjected to torture; 2. Type of torture suffered; 3. Primary complaint/presenting problem; 4. Client's Sex; 5. Immigration status at intake; 6. Age at intake; 7. Employment status at intake; 8. Date of arrival in the U.S.; 9. Country of origin; 10. Ethnicity; 11. Religion; 12. Housing status at intake; 13. Total number of clients; 14. Number of clients by service category (medical, mental health, social, legal); 15. Number of community trainings held; 16. Number of people trained by profession; 17. Number of hours contributed by pro-bono service.

These 17 data points must be clearly and concisely reported by the grantee. For instance: reporting that 100 percent of the new clients achieved housing is not a sufficient data point without being supported by concrete data information. More accurate data reporting would be to state that 12 new clients, and 15 client families were all placed in permanent housing during the reporting period. And then to state that this represents 100 percent of the new clients receiving housing services from the grantee.

All aggregate data/percentages provided must be supported by the raw data used to come to the conclusion that the grantee's program is either meeting its mandate or not. This will also be useful to the grantee and ORR in determining future amendments and positive trends in service delivery that should be documented in the work plan due with the semi-annual report.

# VII. Agency Contacts

# **Program Office Contact**

Jewel Roberts, MSW,

Program Manager, Survivors of Torture Program

Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Office of Refugee Resettlement

370 L'Enfant Promanade, SW

8th Floor, 8 West

WASHINGTON, DC 20447

Phone: (202) 205-9557 Fax: (202) 401-0981

Email: <u>Jewel.Roberts@ACF.hhs.gov</u>

URL: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/

#### **Office of Grants Management Contact**

Daphne Weeden, Director
Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Grants Management

370 L'Enfant Promanade, SW, Sixth Floor, East

Washington, DC 20447 Phone: (202) 401-5513

Email: ACFOGME-grants@acf.hhs.gov

#### **Federal Relay Service:**

Hearing-impaired and speech-impaired callers may contact the Federal Relay Service for assistance at 1-800-877-8339 (**TTY** - Text Telephone or **ASCII** - American Standard Code For Information Interchange).

#### VIII. Other Information

#### **Reference Websites**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the Internet <a href="http://www.hhs.gov/">http://www.hhs.gov/</a>.

Administration for Children and Families (ACF) on the Internet <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/</a>.

Administration for Children and Families - ACF Funding Opportunities homepage <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/</a>.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (C.F.D.A.) <a href="https://www.cfda.gov/">https://www.cfda.gov/</a>.

Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) http://www.gpo.gov.

United States Code (U.S.C) http://www.gpoaccess.gov/uscode/.

All required Standard Forms, assurances, and certifications are available on the ACF Forms page at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants resources.html.

Grants.gov Forms Repository webpage

at http://www.grants.gov/agencies/aforms repository information.jsp.

Versions of other Standard Forms (SFs) are available on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Grants Management Forms web site at <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants">http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants</a> forms/.

For information regarding accessibility issues, visit the Grants.gov Accessibility Compliance Page at <a href="http://www07.grants.gov/aboutgrants/accessibility">http://www07.grants.gov/aboutgrants/accessibility</a> compliance.jsp

Sign up to receive notification of ACF Funding Opportunities at <a href="www.Grants.gov/applicants/email">www.Grants.gov/applicants/email</a> subscription.jsp.

#### **Application Checklist**

Applicants may use the checklist below as a guide when preparing your application package.

What to Submit	Where Found	When to Submit
Certification Regarding Lobbying	Referenced in <i>Section IV.2</i> . of the announcement and found at <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants_resources.html">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/grants_resources.html</a> .	Submission is due with the application package. If it is not submitted with the application package, it may also be submitted prior to the award of a grant.

# SF-424A - Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs and SF-424B - Assurances -**Non-Construction Programs** SF-LLL - Disclosure of

Referenced in Section IV.2. and found at http://www.acf.hhs.gov /grants/grants resources.html.

Submission is due by the application due date found in the Overview and in Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times.

# **Lobbying Activities**

"Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying" is referenced in Section IV.2. and found at http:// www.acf.hhs.gov /grants/grants resources.html.

Submission of this form is required if any funds have been paid, or will be paid, to any person for influencing, or attempting to influence, an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan.

If submission of this form is applicable, it is due prior at the time of application. It may also be submitted prior to the award of a grant.

# SF-424 - Application for **Federal Assistance**

and

SF-P/PSL -**Project/Performance Site** Location(s)

Referenced in Section IV.2. and found at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ grants/grants resources.html and at the Grants.gov Forms Repository at http://www.grants.gov/ agencies/ aforms repository information.jsp.

Submission is due by the application due date found in the Overview and in Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times.

# **Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants**

Non-profit private organizations (not including private universities) are encouraged to submit the survey with their applications. Applicants applying electronically, may submit this survey along with the application as part of the appendix or as a separate document. Applicants submitting in paper, please place the completed survey in an envelope labeled "Applicant Survey." Seal the envelope and include it along with the application package.

The survey is referenced in Section IV.2. of the announcement. The survey may be found at http://

#### Submission is voluntary.

Submission may be made with the application by the application due date listed in the Overview and Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times. Or, it may be submitted prior to the award of a grant.

	www.acf.hhs.gov /grants/grants resources.html.	
	The survey will not count in the page limitations.	
The Project Description	Referenced in <i>Section IV.2. The Project Description</i> . This is the title for the project narrative that describes the applicant's plan for the project.	Submission is due by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times</i> .
The Project Budget and Budget Justification	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Budget and Budget Justification of the announcement.	Submission of the Project Budget is required on the appropriate Standard Form (424A or 424C). The Budget Justification is a separate document that may be no longer than 10 pages and is due by the application due date found in the Overview and in Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times.
Project Summary/Abstract	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Description of the announcement. It is an element of the Project Description and will be counted in page limitations that are stated in Section IV.2. Formatting Requirements.	Submission is due by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times</i> .
Proof of Non-Profit Status	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Description of the announcement under "Legal Status of Applicant Entity." Proof of non-profit status may be submitted as part of appendices to the application package. It is not considered as part of the project narrative/plan.	Proof of non-profit status should be submitted with the application package by the due date listed in the <i>Overview</i> and <i>Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times</i> . If it is not available at the time of application submission, it must be submitted prior to the award of a grant.
Table of Contents	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Description. This is an element of the Project Description and will usually be counted in page limitations listed in Section IV.2.	Submission is due as part of the Project Description by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3. Submission</i>

	Formatting Requirements.	Dates and Times.
Project Sustainability Plan	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Description of the announcement. It is an element of the Project Description and will be counted in page limitations that are stated in Section IV.2. Formatting Requirements.	Submission is due by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times</i> .
Letters of Support	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Description. This is an element of the Project Description and may count against page limitations set in Section IV.2. Formatting Requirements.	Submission is due by the application due date listed in the Overview and in Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times.
Third-Party Agreements	Referenced in Section IV.2. of the announcement under "Project Description."	If available, submission is due by the application due date found in the Overview and in Section IV.3. If not available at the time of application submission, due by the time of award.
Logic Model	Referenced in Section IV.2. The Project Description of the announcement. It is an element of the Project Description and will be counted in page limitations that are stated in Section IV.2. Formatting Requirements.	Submission is due with the application package by the application due date found in the <i>Overview</i> and in <i>Section IV.3. Submission Dates and Times</i> .

# Appendices